



PRESS RELEASE

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Commission Awards \$861,805 Grant to California State Polytechnic University (CalPoly) Pomona to Improve Teaching and Learning

February 2004 --- California State Polytechnic University (CalPoly) Pomona will receive a three-year grant of \$861,805 in federal monies that have been earmarked for improving the quality of teaching and learning in the counties of Los Angeles and San Bernardino. Designed to address the severe shortage of mathematics and science teachers in high needs schools in the two counties, this project will increase the number and diversity of highly qualified teachers by actively recruiting and training historically underserved and underrepresented students.

The project is expected to serve 31 schools enrolling over 40,000 high school and middle schools students. CalPoly will partner with the unified school districts of Pomona, Rialto, Rowland and Snowline. A great many of those teaching mathematics and science are not highly qualified and test scores in these areas are well below the state averages. Apple computer is also a partner in the venture.

The California Postsecondary Education Commission has been administering federal funds to improve teacher professional development since 1984. This year the Commission has made awards totaling over \$14 million in the *Improving Teacher Quality State Grants Program*.

The California Postsecondary Education Commission advises the Governor and Legislature on higher education policy and fiscal issues. Its primary focus is to ensure that the state's educational resources are used effectively to provide Californians with postsecondary education opportunities. More information about the Commission and its work can be found at its website at www.cpec.ca.gov. For more information about this program, you may contact Laurie Riggs, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona, at 909-869-3142; or Susan Thomas at 760-868-5817.